

THE YOUNG LADY ACROSS THE WAY



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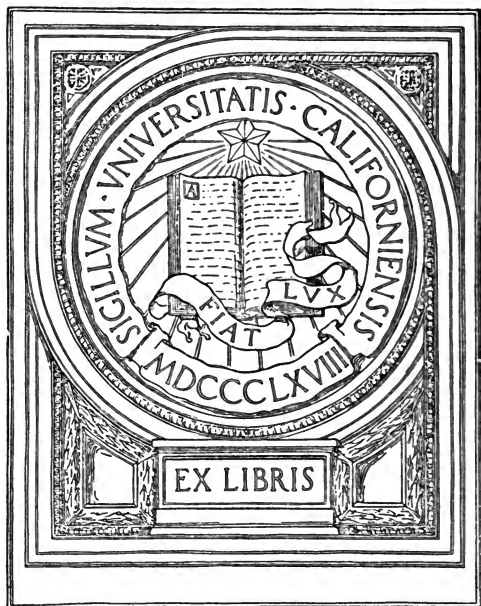
BY
ROBERT O. RYDER.
AND
HARRY J. WESTERMAN.



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THE YOUNG LADY ACROSS THE WAY

As Interviewed by
ROBERT O. RYDER

And Sketched by
HARRY J. WESTERMAN



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The young lady across the way says
she thinks her father must have some
awfully nice friends, she hears him
speak so often about having another
call from his bankers.

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We asked the young lady across the way if she had heard about the disappearance of Saturn's rings and she said no, she hadn't happened to hear about this particular case, but she knew such things were altogether too common these days and to her mind the very worst feature was that the police seemed to be in collusion with the burglars and it was almost impossible to get anything back.





The young lady across the way says
she knows her father doesn't owe any
money around town because she over-
heard him say that he hadn't a dollar's
worth of credit left anywhere.





We asked the young lady across the way for her opinion as to the relative values of the nitrogenous and the carbonaceous foods and she said she really didn't know, always buying things as she did by the dime's worth and not noticing particularly how much she got for her money.





The young lady across the way says
she guesses her father must hate to
write letters, she hears him speak so
often about some of his notes' being
overdue.





We asked the young lady across the way if she thought clandestine marriages were excusable under any circumstances, and she said well she didn't like to judge anybody harshly but it did seem to her, to say the very least, as if a girl made a great mistake to go and get married to some old duke or count or something when American young men were so much nicer.





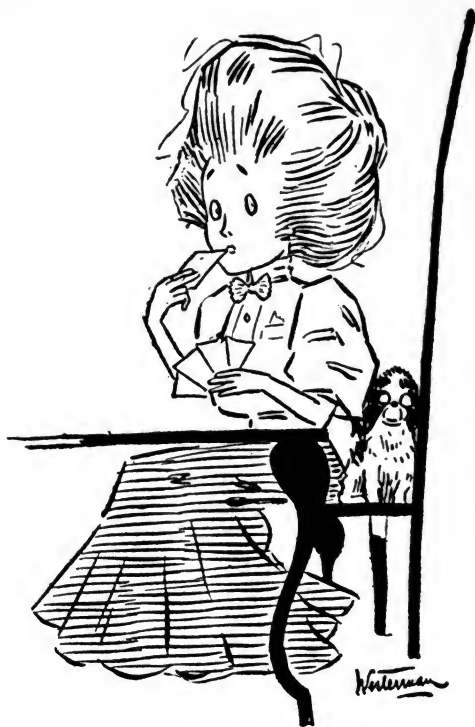
The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that he had taken in a lot of bad paper lately and she thinks it's just terrible the way these great trusts are allowed to palm off inferior goods on innocent people.





We asked the young lady across the way if she were doing anything in economics out at the university and she said O yes indeed and in fact, with times as they were, the whole family was trying to keep expenses down and they'd let the second girl go already and were thinking about giving the cook notice.





The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that a gentleman had just paid \$65,000 for a seat on the New York stock exchange and wasn't it terrible how extravagant people were in New York but of course she supposed it meant a box for the season.





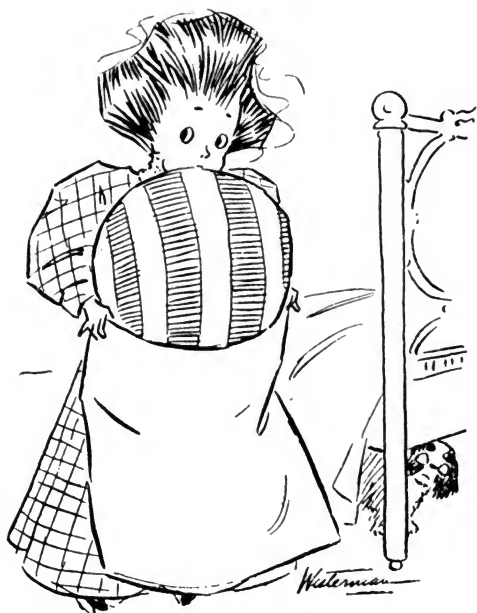
The young lady across the way says she doesn't see why any one should go and get excited about a gold famine when everybody knows that you're likely to get five-dollar gold pieces mixed up with nickels and bills are so much more convenient anyway.





The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that our minister to Austria got a salary of \$17,500 a year and with all the wickedness there was in this country and so few clergymen with ability enough to earn that amount she didn't know whether she believed in foreign missions any more or not.





The young lady across the way informed us that she loved poetry, and we asked her what she thought of dactylic hexameter as a vehicle and she said the electric runabout was good enough for her.





The young lady across the way says she knows her father never invests in watered stocks because she overheard him say that, with all the securities he had on hand, he didn't have anything bearing the slightest resemblance to liquid assets.





Thinking to stimulate her interest in the great questions of the day, we asked the young lady across the way how she thought the new currency ought to be secured and she said for her part she generally pinned it in the front of her dress with a big safety pin.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that all the financial trouble was caused by people putting too much money into their stockings and for her part she didn't think there was any excuse for such extravagance when you can get as good ones as anybody ought to want for two dollars and thirty-seven cents a pair at any of the department stores.





We asked the young lady across the way what they were going to have for the piece de resistance at Christmas dinner over at her house, and she said O she guessed they wouldn't have anything so elaborate as all that but just turkey and plum pudding and the usual fixin's.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say he wished the comptroller of the currency wouldn't call so often and for her part she thought it was awfully nice of him to pay some attention socially to his business acquaintances.





The young lady across the way happened to hear us speak favorably of garbage reduction and she said O yes that was all right theoretically and some reform was certainly needed in that direction but what were we going to do about it when people would leave so much on their plates.





We asked the young lady across the way what she thought of the influence of women's clubs upon the home, and she said well she was only a beginner herself but she must say her mother had brought home two or three prizes that looked lovely on the parlor mantel-piece.





The young lady across the way says
she can't understand why her father
talks so much about being hard up
when she saw his check book herself
and noticed there were at least a hun-
dred checks in it without any writing
at all on them.





The young lady across the way says
she had heard about paper car wheels
but she guessed there must be a limit
somewhere to what the inventors
could do because she overheard her
father say he was sorry he had bought
an interest in a paper railroad.





The young lady across the way says she noticed in the paper that the consumption of beer was on the increase and wasn't it terrible how people would continue to drink things that brought on such awful diseases as that.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say he was worried to death about the condition of his books and she guessed she'd give him a set of James Whitcomb Riley's works for Christmas.





The young lady across the way informed us that they were taking their meals at the hotel now and we asked her if she found the cuisine satisfactory, and she said well she hadn't been there long enough to make up her mind about that but she would say for them that they set an awfully good table.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that he wouldn't be satisfied until he had given the man higher up what he deserved and for her part she thought it was awfully nice of gentlemen in the same office building to remember one another on Christmas.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that Christmas had taken what was left of his credit and for her part she thought it was better to pay for things as you got them anyway and you soon got used to waiting for your change.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that the market was in terrible condition and it did seem to her as if the city ought to provide more receptacles for the old decayed apples and cabbages and things.





The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that scientific oyster culture was proving very successful and wasn't it wonderful how with intelligent training even the stupidest animals could be educated and only the other day she saw some trained birds that could count up to ten at the theater.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that the treating habit was responsible for a great deal of foolish extravagance and for her part she didn't see how it made any difference when she paid for Edytha's chocolate dope one day and Edytha paid for her woodland glaze the next.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that collections were very bad and for her part she thought it was just a shame how well-to-do people gave so little to the support of the church.





Resuming our discussion of the hotel cuisine, we asked the young lady across the way if she liked potatoes au naturel and she said no she didn't care much for fancy cooking and believed she liked them just boiled with the skins on better than any other way.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that he was going to hold on to his stocks just as long as he possibly could, though he was sure he didn't know how much longer that would be, and for her part she didn't see why he wanted the old things when the prices had gone down so.





Reverting to world politics, we happened to observe to the young lady across the way that our foreign relations worried us somewhat and she said for her part no member of her family had ever married any duke or count or anything like that but she knew she'd be worried too if they had.





The young lady across the way says
the stores all give such wonderful bar-
gains right after Christmas that she
should think all the people in the
country would agree to give their
Christmas presents along about New
Year's so as to get them cheaper.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say he felt pretty sure now that his bank wouldn't close its doors this winter and for her part she didn't wonder that there was so much grip around and people ought not to be so careless even if it had been an unusually warm season.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that he looked for a revival on the stock exchange after the first of the year and from some things she'd heard she guessed it was needed pretty badly and she did hope they'd stay converted.





The young lady across the way says
she overheard her father say that the
cost of white paper was unreasonably
high and for her part she didn't see
how that made any difference when
pale blue and Quaker gray were so
much more stylish anyway.





The young lady across the way says she can't see why her father complains so much about the cost of living when she went down to the January sales and bought a ninety-dollar party gown for \$69.50 and a fifteen-dollar Fluffy Ruffles scarf for \$9.98.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that any change in tin plate prices at this time would cause distress among thousands of people and for her part she never knew before that there were so many people who couldn't afford china and wasn't it true that half the world didn't know how the other half lived.





The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that social conditions were responsible for most of the crimes in this country and it did seem to her as if we ought to be more careful about who got into society.





The young lady across the way says her father asked her not to spend any more money than necessary just at this time and for her part she didn't find it hard at all to save nearly all her allowance when the dry goods stores were all so nice about letting her charge things.





We asked the young lady across the way if she had read the president's message yet and she said no her father got so many telegrams that she had lost interest in them and didn't even try to see if she could make out whether they came from anyone she knew by the writing on the envelopes any longer.





The young lady across the way informed us that she was taking a course in psychology out at the university and we asked her what she thought of auto-suggestion, and she said O, with her father talking so much about being hard pressed for ready money, she wouldn't dare suggest even a little electric not to mention a red touring-car which she'd much rather have.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that his bankers kept advising him to reduce his loans and for her part she thought it was awfully nice of gentlemen who understood all about such things to go to the trouble of giving advice to their business acquaintances.





We asked the young lady across the way if she thought the hard times were about over and she said she guessed so because she overheard her father say that his biggest loans matured next week.





We asked the young lady across the way for her opinion as to the economic value of the automobile, and she said for her part she couldn't see where the economy came in when even people who didn't own them had to have automobile coats and automobile veils and all those things and with everything costing so much too.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that all the men in the financial district wished President Roosevelt would run again so they could pay him back for all he'd done for them and wasn't it remarkable how the president held his wonderful popularity among all classes of people.





The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that the locks on the Panama canal were going to cost ever so much more than the original estimates and why didn't they use the ones they'd planned to and just put on a few extra bolts.





The young lady across the way says
her father may speculate a little but
she knows he doesn't go in very deep
because she overheard him say that he
was short of almost every stock on
the market.





We asked the young lady across the way what she thought of the omission of the motto from the new coins, and she said well for her part she didn't see that it made any great difference when nine out of ten people never stopped to think about the religious significance of E Pluribus Unum anyway.





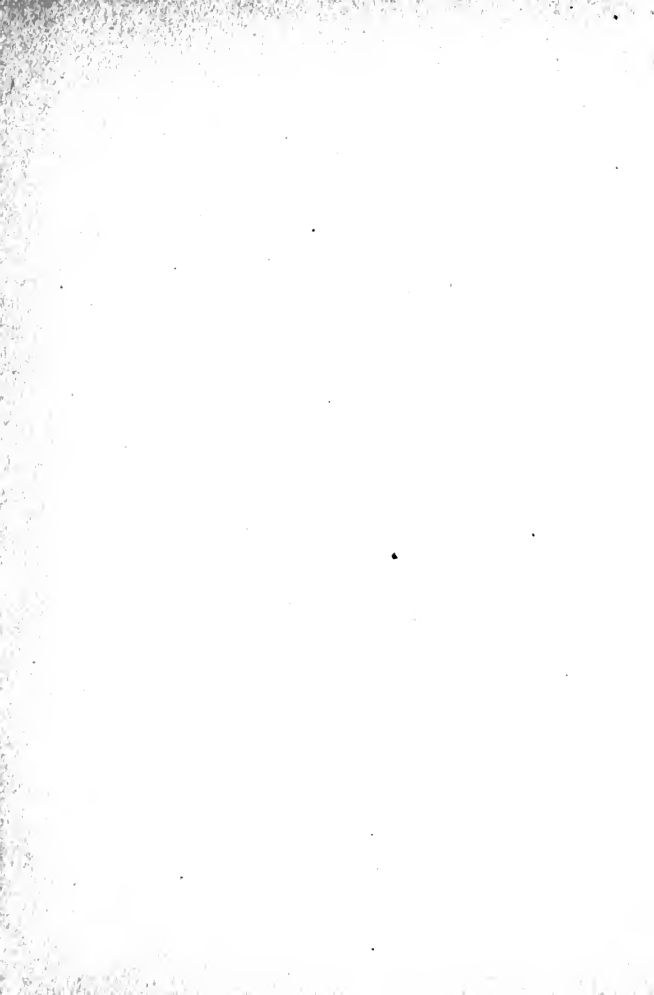
The young lady across the way says she overheard her father say that he called on his brokers yesterday and found them embarrassed and wasn't it strange how gentlemen who made such a success in business were often so timid socially.



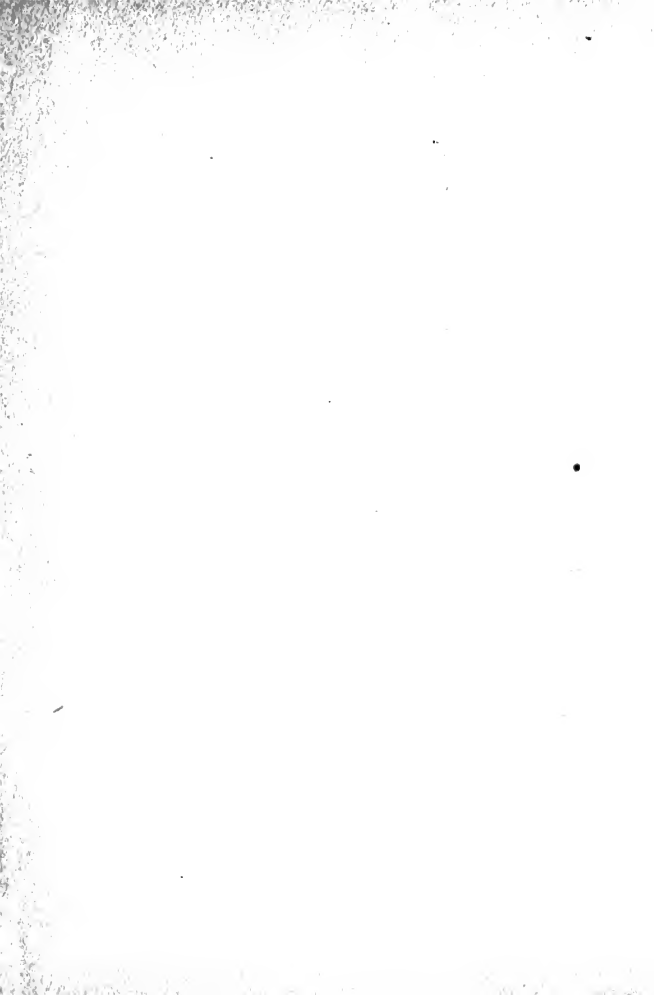


De gustibus non disputandum est, observed we to the young lady across the way, and she said yes indeed we did and for her part, after more mature consideration, she did think it was a shame to leave it off the new gold coins.









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